

To: Dave Beck, KUOW Host

August, 1997

From: Stephen Ambrose, Author

Re: My interview

Dear Dave,

Thanks again for interviewing me on KUOW and congratulations for winning the national PRNDI Award. I believe it's the biggest award anyone has gotten for interviewing me, and even though I'm truly honored, in reflection there are a few of your probing questions I would answer differently if I had the chance.

In response to your first question, "If you could be any animal, what would it be?", I said a mountain goat. After some thought, though, I'd actually be a tortoise, as they live much longer.

Your follow up question, "What's, like, the weirdest dream you've ever had?" caught me a little off guard. So in my dream of riding the buffalo through Arlington National Cemetery I totally left out the end where the buffalo turns into Smokey Robinson.

I didn't think anyone could top that, but then I sat back in awe as you took 40 minutes to tell me some of *your* weird dreams.

Your final question got right to the heart of my work: "So, where do you get your ideas?"

As I began formulating my answer, you – as a true professional – made the 'slashing sign' across your throat, signaling the interview was about to end. So I quickly said, "Lots of places!", and you brought our conversation to a tidy close.

My hat is off to you, Dave, for a truly memorable radio chat. Best of luck in your future endeavors!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen Ambrose", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Stephen Ambrose